

BATTLE PREPARATION



Retreat Prayer Focus

Seven Weeks of Preparation and Prayer



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For your Retreat Schedule and Location refer to www.CleansingStream.org

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Dear Ministry Team Member,

As we all prepare to serve at the upcoming Regional Retreat

There is a CALL to prayer:

“Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere.” Ephesians 6:18 (NLV)

How can we answer this CALL to prayer?

By using this booklet for seven weeks of prayer before the retreat

- ◆ Start with “Week 7” praying for the area identified.
- ◆ Week-by-week prayer focuses are included—but as always pray as the Lord directs.
- ◆ Keep this booklet in your Bible for easy reference during prayer.

By praying with confidence!

“He (God) Who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?” Romans 8:32

By praying with persistence!

“Keep on asking, and you will be given what you ask for. Keep on looking, and you will find. Keep on knocking and the door will be opened...how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask Him!” Matthew 7:7, 11(NLV)

Thank you for committing to serve with us this Retreat Season. *Remember PRAYER IS THE BATTLE!*
Won't you begin the battle today?

***Pastor Chris Hayward,
President,
Cleansing Stream***



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How to Begin...

As we plan and prepare to move in unity leading up to the retreat, please join us in:

Prayer

Through this prayer focus booklet in the seven weeks leading up to the retreat (see pg. 4)

Declaration

Of the Scriptures noted—agreeing with God

Look up additional Scriptures to declare the Truth over each area of focus

Fasting

One day weekly and participate in the three-day fast scheduled in the last full week prior to the retreat

Arm Yourself

Putting on the armor of God—Ephesians 6:10-18

Rising to your Role

The call of Ezekiel 22:30 in intercession is to “stand in the gap.”

What that means is:

- ◆ You are standing *before* God on behalf of the participant asking for grace, mercy, and deliverance.
- ◆ You are standing *between* the enemy and the participant allowing them to make the choice to be free.

The Importance of what you do is made very clear as we look at Exodus 17:8-16. There we find Moses, Aaron, and Hur interceding for Joshua as he led the Israelites in battle. From this event we can gain some great insights about intercession and how it relates to ministry at the retreat:

- ◆ The battle was won in prayer (intercession) before it was won on the battlefield—the retreat.
- ◆ When the prayer waned, the battle waned, they were linked together.
- ◆ Together, those interceding and those on the battlefield, gained the victory!

Moving in your Authority

- ◆ To bind and loose—Matthew 18:18-20
- ◆ Over all the power of the enemy—Luke 10:19
- ◆ Because of our position seated with Christ above the enemy—Ephesians 1:19-23 and 2:4-6
- ◆ Because the Holy Spirit in us is greater than our enemy—
1 John 4:4

Which comes from Jesus... because He

- ◆ Is the Anointed One who proclaims liberty and sets the captives free—Isaiah 61:1
- ◆ Is seated at the right hand of God and has the name higher than any name—Philippians 2:5-11
- ◆ Has triumphed over the enemy in the cross—Colossians 2:14-15

Using your Weapons

- ◆ The Blood of Jesus -- Hebrews 9:12; 1 Peter 1:18-19; 1 John 1:7; Revelation 12:11
- ◆ The Name of Jesus -- Proverbs 18:10; Matthew 18:20; John 14:12-14; Colossians. 3:17
- ◆ The Word/Truth -- Psalms 119:105-106; John 8:32; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:16-17; Hebrews 4:12
- ◆ Praying in the Spirit -- Romans 8:26; 1 Corinthians 14:15; Ephesians 6:18; Jude 20-21
- ◆ Praise and Worship -- 2 Chronicles 20:21-22; Psalms 32:7; 149:6-9; Acts 16:25-26
- ◆ Love -- 1 John 4:18, John 15:9, 1 Corinthians 13

How to Serve...

The strategy of Nehemiah 1-4

In these chapters we see God's people free from captivity but living in the "rubble" of their former lives. As they rebuild and restore that which is broken (in their case the city wall and later the temple), we can see how this applies to us and to those to whom we minister. We have been freed from the slavery of sin and death (through salvation), but often we are still living in the rubble of our former lives (in bondage)—we all need rebuilding and restoration (God's freedom and healing)—and that is what this Seminar and Retreat are about. As we review the chapters, allow the Lord to show you how His rebuilding and restoration plan has implications for us now! Also, look for your specific ministry team role as you prepare to serve!

Scripture...

1:1-2:8

The King gives the authority to rebuild.

2:11-19

The leaders plan...

...Inspect the damage and assess the rebuilding

...Communicate the plan to the leaders

...Rebuilding begins "...they set their hands to this good work."

2:19

Their enemy tries to stop them
before they start.

2:20

Nehemiah's response to the enemy...

"...God of heaven will prosper us; therefore we His servants will build, but you have no heritage or right or memorial in Jerusalem."

Application...

Today our King Jesus gives us authority to rebuild our lives and assist those to whom we minister.

A strategy was set in place...Battle Preparation Plan (before the retreat), Battle Plan (at the retreat), and Continuing the Battle (after the retreat) and communicated to the leaders and begun!

In anticipation of this tactic of the enemy, we will engage in 7-weeks of prayer prior to the retreat.

Prophesy the Truth...about God, us, and the enemy!

Scripture...

Chapter 3

There was unity and humility—ALL worked (Nehemiah, priests, Levites, goldsmiths, etc.)

4:6-8

There was progress rebuilding ...

...they built the wall half way up

...gaps were being closed

...BUT the enemy was angry, planned to attack and create confusion

4: 9

The leadership's response to the enemy...

...prayer

...a watch was set day and night

4:10

There is propaganda...

...from within

"...The strength of the laborers is failing, and there is so much rubbish we are not able to build..."

4:11

...from without—their adversary

"...They will neither know nor see anything, till we come into their midst and kill them and cause the work to cease."

4:12

...from a part of their group

"...they told us ten times, 'From whatever place you turn, they will be upon us.'"

Application...

We are in this together; so with a servant's heart and humility, be thankful for the privilege of serving where the Lord places you.

We and those we will minister to have begun the rebuilding and restoration process (partially through the CS Seminar). We have the privilege of partnering with the Lord to further the "work" at the retreat!

Our enemy's agenda is to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10). Our response is to prepare in prayer—watching AND praying.

Statements to discourage came from within. We can allow these thoughts to keep us from the Lord's work, or we can remember what seems impossible, is possible with God (Matthew 19:26)!

Have you heard words like these before from our enemy? In John 10:10 Jesus says He knows the enemy's plan—but Jesus' plan is to give abundant life.

Sometimes those we are partnering with, both leadership and participants, can be afraid. Pray against all the sources of propaganda and lies. Choose to reject the lies, then to accept and believe the truth.

Scripture...

4:13-14

Leadership intervenes responding to areas of true vulnerability and assigning the people to strategic positions...
...behind lower parts of the wall
...at the openings
...by family
...with swords (close warfare), spears (mid-range warfare), bows (long-range warfare)
...exhorting the leaders and people to focus on the Lord and **the truth**
...Do not be afraid
...Remember the Lord
...fight for your brethren...

4:15

Their enemy heard...
...God had revealed their plan and brought it to nothing
...People returned to rebuilding

4:16-20

The people's jobs were defined...
...*half of the people rebuilt with a sword at their side*

...*half took a battle stance*

Application...

Let's take our ministry team assignments, serve humbly, and know that the positions we have been given are meant to strengthen the vulnerable places.

We need to exhort each other, establishing the truth—it is not us—it is God—so fight!

God will reveal the strategy and tactics of the enemy, showing us how to resist his plans, allowing us to continue to rebuild.

At the retreat...

The Anointers combat the enemy in close, hand-to-hand, warfare, while assisting in the rebuilding process.

The Intercessors combat the enemy in mid-to-long range warfare. They guard, protect and defend the "work" (restoring of lives) and our fellow "workers" (ministry team). So let's stand our ground, maintain our position; knowing it is vital to victory!

Scripture...

4:16-20 *(continued)*

...leaders positioned behind

...trumpeter and leader

The work is great and extensive, and we are separated far from one another on the wall. Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, rally to us there. God will fight for us.

4:21-23

They were serious...

...guarded at night, worked during the day

...only leaving to wash clothes!

6:15-16

They prepared for physical war but did not have to battle because God finished what He began...

"So the wall was finished...when all our enemies heard of it, and all the nations around us saw these things, they were very disheartened...for they perceived that this work was done by God."

Application...

Leadership has the responsibility to maintain unity through communication (providing direction) and discipleship (assisting in warfare)

The retreat leader, teachers, ministry generals, and CSM staff are responsible for the oversight of the rebuilding as well as unifying all who serve and wage war.

*We need to have a sense of conviction of how strategic our work is, then commit to the Lord and submit to leadership. Let's show our commitment by **being present, on time, focused, and serving as directed**. Keep lines of communication open, sharing revelation received and any need to leave our post. Remember we want to do all for the glory of God..."To God our Savior...be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen" (Jude 25).*

In obedience, we need to prepare for battle while doing God's work. Being confident that God will bring the victory. All will see the finished work...us, the participants and the enemy and will know that **GOD has done it!**

Jesus is...

"infinite in wisdom and knowledge, unfathomable in love, absolute in justice, supreme in authority, timeless in existence and limitless in power!"

Seven Weeks of Prayer...

WEEK 7 FOCUS

Personal cleansing and preparation

Focus Scripture

Psalm 7:9 *"...For the righteous God tests the hearts and minds."*

Prayer Points

- ♦ Daily ask the Lord to *search* your heart (Psalm 139:1-4; 23-24)
- ♦ *Respond* to what's been revealed (Isaiah 6:5-8; 2 Corinthians 7:1)

Declaration

Hebrews 13:20-21 *"Now may the peace of God who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen."*

Our Prayer for You

Ephesians 3:14-19 *"For this reason I kneel before the Father...I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."* (NIV)

Your Personal Prayer Journal

WEEK 6 FOCUS

Leadership

CSM staff, Regional staff, Retreat Leadership Team/Teachers, Translators, Cleansing Stream Seminar/Discipleship leaders

Focus Scripture

Ephesians 4:12-13 *"For the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to be a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."*

Prayer Points

General...

- ♦ *Protection* for leadership and their families
- ♦ Apply the *blood* of Jesus—covering on the heart—emotions and mind—thoughts (Exodus 12:7, 13)
- ♦ *Bind* the enemy (Matthew 18:18-20; Philippians 4:7; 2 Thessalonians 3:3)
- ♦ *Provision*—invite the Holy Spirit's—Anointing to prepare, lead, teach.—Gifts of utterance, wisdom, revelation (2 Corinthians 12-13; Ephesians 1:3)—Fruit of love, peace, gentleness (Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 1:15-23)—Strength both physical and emotional (Philippians 4:13)—His Direction

Specific...

- ♦ CSM Staff (Colossians 1:9-12)
- ♦ Retreat Leadership Team (Acts 6:4)
- ♦ Retreat Teachers (John 8:32; Ephesians 4:15)
- ♦ Translator
- ♦ Discipleship/CSM Seminar leaders (Philippians 2:1-11)

Declaration

Philippians 1:9-11 "And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God."

Your Personal Prayer Journal

WEEK 5 FOCUS

Ministry Team

Anointer Generals/Captains/Anointers, Intercessor General/Team Captains/Intercessors, Family Representative, Worship Leader/Team

Focus Scripture

1 Peter 4:10-11 "As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God...that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."

Prayer Points

General...

- ♦ To *believe* their authority because of Jesus (Isaiah 61:1) —Over all the power of the enemy (Luke 10:19)
- ♦ To *rely* on the Holy Spirit (Proverbs 3:5-6) for His gifts (1 Corinthians 12:11, 31), love, sensitivity (1 Corinthians 16:13-14)
- ♦ To *walk* in submission (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13; Hebrew 13:17), order (1 Corinthians 14:40), and unity (Matthew 18:19-20)
- ♦ To *serve* (Colossians 3:12-17)

Specific...

- ♦ Ministry Generals/Captains, Intercessor General/ Captains, Family Representatives (Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 2:16)
- ♦ Anointers/Intercessors (Galatians 6:2)
- ♦ Worship Leader/Team (2 Chronicles 20:1-21; Psalm 95:1-3, 6; 118:14; John 4:23-24)

Declaration

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 "We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." (NIV)

Your Personal Prayer Journal

WEEK 4 FOCUS

Cleansing Stream Seminar Participants

For the release of the heart and will of God

Focus Scripture

1 Peter 2:9 "...you are a chosen people. You are a kingdom of priests, God's holy nation, His very own possession. This is so you can show others the goodness of God, for He called you out of the darkness into His wonderful light." (NLV)

Prayer Points

- ♦ Release the will of God—Matthew 6:10; 26:39
- ♦ Protection (cover with the blood)
- ♦ Provision
 - Practical (financial, time off work, babysitting,)
 - Strength (physical, emotional, will)
 - Cleansing (2 Kings 23)
 - Truth (2 Timothy 2:25-26)
 - Repent—godly sorrow (2 Corinthians 7:10)
 - Exercise will
 - Covenant with God
 - Cleanse
 - Replace

Sample prayer

"May they see the truth and repent with godly sorrow in each area to be addressed. Deliver them from the enemy's trap into Your plans and purposes for them."

Declaration

Psalms 23:1-3 "The Lord is my shepherd; I have everything I need. He lets me rest in green meadows; He leads me beside peaceful streams. He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to His name." (NLV)

Your Personal Prayer Journal

WEEK 3 FOCUS

Cleansing Stream Seminar Participants

That they would resist the enemy

Focus Scripture

Psalm 23:4 "Even when I walk through the dark valley of death [the darkest valley], I will not be afraid for You are close beside me. Your rod and Your staff protect and comfort me." (NLV)

Prayer Points

General...

- ♦ Expose works of darkness in their life (Ephesians 5:11; Hebrews 12:1-2)
- ♦ Lay out the plan of the enemy before the Lord (2 Kings 19:14)
- ♦ Warfare against the enemy on their behalf that they would stand (Ephesians 6:10-18) and resist (James 4:7-8; 1 Peter 5:8-9)

Specific...

- ♦ Fear (2 Timothy 1:7; 1 John 4:18)
- ♦ Doubt (James 1:6-7)
- ♦ Turmoil
- ♦ Temptation
- ♦ Bondage

Declaration

Psalm 23:5-6 "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." (NIV)

Your Personal Prayer Journal

WEEK 2 FOCUS

Location

For covering and cleansing

Focus Scripture

Jeremiah 29:7 "And seek the peace of the city...and pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace you will have peace."

Prayer Points

General...

- ♦ Covering (Exodus 12:7, 13)
- ♦ Cleansing (Hebrews 9:14, 22)

Specific...

- ♦ City—against principalities, powers, rulers, spiritual hosts, strongholds, arguments, specific spirits known to be associated with the area (2 Chronicles 7:14; 2 Corinthians 10:4-5; Ephesians 6:12)
- ♦ Building—to possess (Genesis 13:17; Deuteronomy 11:24; Joshua 1:3) If you live near the actual Retreat location please pray near the property, but respect the Church by not going on the property itself.
- ♦ Host—bless the church family, at the church location where we are meeting (1 Samuel 25:6)
- ♦ Room Set-up—physical preparation
- ♦ Audio/Visual—video, overheads, sound
- ♦ Seek revelation for God's strategy for this area and retreat
- ♦ Seek revelation of the enemy's tactics for this area and retreat

Declaration

Proverbs 18:10 "The name of the Lord is a strong tower; [strength and height] the righteous run to it and are safe [lifted out of reach, protected]."

Your Personal Prayer Journal

WEEK 1 FOCUS

Comprehensive

To recap the past seven weeks in this last week before the retreat

Focus Scripture

Joshua 3:5 "Consecrate yourselves for...the Lord will do amazing things among you." (NIV)

Prayer Points

- Day 7: Personal cleansing
- Day 6: Leadership
- Day 5: Ministry team
- Day 4: Cleansing Stream Seminar Participants—releasing God's heart and will
- Day 3: Cleansing Stream Seminar Participants—resisting the enemy
- Day 2: Location
- Day 1: Praise God for the victory (Psalm 107:1-2; 1 Corinthians 15:57)

Declaration

*Ephesians 3:20 "Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is a work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever!
Amen." (NIV)*

And in the NLT...

"Now glory be to God! By His mighty power at work within us, He is able to accomplish infinitely more than we would ever dare to ask or hope. May He be given glory in the church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever through endless ages. Amen."

Your Personal Prayer Journal
